

Message Text

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47

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 OMB-01 AGR-20

AID-20 OPR-02 DRC-01 (ISO) W
----- 066886

R 091950Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8923

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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT OMITTED FROM ORIG)

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM SENT ACTION NEW DELHI
ON JAN 9,1974 FROM BOMBAY IS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO

QUOTE

R 090445Z JAN 74

FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

TO RUSBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 8536

INFO RUSBTA/AMCONSUL CALCUTTA 1502

RUSBAS/AMCONSUL MADRAS 1530

C O N F I D E N T I A L

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOMBAY 0062

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS/ ELAB, IN

SUBJECT: BOMBAY TEXTILE WORKERS STRIKE

REF: BOMBAY 0015

1. BOMBAY TEXTILE STRIKE CONTINUES WITH NO PROSPECT OF SETTLEMENT.

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STRIKE GENERALLY PEACEFUL SO FAR ALTHOUGH MILLOWNERS ASSOCIATION

(MA) SOURCES ALLEGE THERE IS HEAVY INTIMIDATION BY STRIKERS AGAINST THOSE WANTING TO WORK. MA SOURCES ALSO INDICATE THAT AS OF JANUARY 8, OF 48 PRIVATELY RUN MILLS HERE, 12 ARE WORKING WITH FULL COMPLEMENT, 7 WITH PARTIAL COMPLEMENT AND REMAINDER COMPLETELY CLOSED.

2. AITUC-CONTROLLED GIRNI KAMGAR UNION AND THE OTHER LEFTIST UNIONS SPONSORING THE STRIKE REPORTEDLY ARE PLANNING LARGE RALLY AND DEMONSTRATION JANUARY 14 WHEN PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI SCHEDULED VISIT BOMBAY. THE UNIONS ARE EXPECTED TO PRESENT PRIME MINISTER WITH DEMANDS NOT ONLY IN REGARD TO TEXTILE WORKERS BUT ALSO OTHER INDUSTRIAL WORKERS.

3. ACCORDING TO ONE MA SOURCES, THE STRIKE IS PARTICALLY POLITICALLY MITIFCATED AND IS INTENDED TO BOOST THE COMMUNIST CANDIDATE MRS. ROZA DESHPANDE (DAUGHTER OF COMMUNIST PARTY GENERAL SECRETARY S.A. DANGE) WHO IS CONTESTING THE UPCOMING BY-ELECTION TO LOK SOBHA FROM THE BOMBAY CENTRAL (NORTH) CONSTITUENCY JAN 13. THIS SOURCE BELIEVES STRIKE WILL EVENTUALLY FIZZLE OUT OR WILL BE UNILATERALLY CALLED OFF SINCE BOTH THE MA AND THE RECOGNIZED BARGAINING AGENT, RASHTRIYA MILLS MAZDOOR SANGH (RMMS) ARE FIRM AND PLAN TO IMPLEMENT THE THREE YEAR AGREEMENT IN TOTO WHICH CALLS FOR ONLY AN APPROXIMATE 8 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE.

4. COMMENT. DECISION BY SHIV SENA TO WITHDRAW ITS SUPPORT TO THE STRIKE HAS TO AN EXTENT DEMORALIZED THE STRIKING WORKERS. HOWEVER WE WOULD EXPECT MOMENTUM OF STRIKE TO CARRY THROUGH UPCOMING ELECTION ON 13TH DUE IN LARGE MEASURE ANTI-CONGRESS ATMOSPHERE AND STRONG CPI SUPPORT TO STRIKE. AFTER WHICH WE WOULD EXPECT SOME SORT OF SETTLEMENT TO BE REACHED GIVEN WIDESPREAD SUPPORT AMONG WORKERS FOR STRIKE OBJECTIVES. STRIKE HAS ENABLED CPI REESTABLISH ITS IDENTITIY AMONG TEXTILE WORKERS AND STRENGTHEN ITS POSITION VIS-A-VIS RMMS. IN PROCESS HITHERTO FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN BPCC AND CPI IN BOMBAY HAVE BEEN STRAINED AS REFLECTED IN STRONGLY OPPOSING POSITIONS TAKEN IN FORTHCOMING PARLIMENTARY ELECTION.
BANE

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UNQUOTE MOYNIHAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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